



DECLARATION - USA PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **RETRACTABLE VEHICLE STEP**; the specification of which was filed on March 26, 2001 as Application Serial No. 09/817,897 and was amended on .

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56;

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Codes § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application No.: 60/269,286

Filing Date: February 15, 2001

Application No.: 60/404,353

Filing Date: August 15, 2002

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

			<u>Priority Claimed</u>
No.: PCTUS02/04767	Country: WO	Date Filed: 2/15/02	Yes
No.: PCTUS02/33586	Country: WO	Date Filed: 8/16/02	Yes

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below, and insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S.A. Application

Application No.: 10/274,418

Filing Date: 10/16/02

Status: Pending

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole inventor: **Horst Leitner**

Inventor's signature *Horst Leitner*

Date 11/22/03

Residence: **330 Harold Drive
Laguna Beach, CA 92651**

Citizenship: **Austrian**

Post Office Address: **Same as above**

Send Correspondence To:
**KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP
Customer No. 20,995**

HADOCSWJMKMJK-5257.DOC
012203